59 Mornington Road
Regents Park
London NW
Jun 10. 1867

My dear Mr Garrison,

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Miss Remond called here on Friday last and made me quite happy by telling me how well you are looking after the multifarious labours and trials & painful accidents of the last six years. She says you are scarcely looking any different from when she saw you in America — And she also told me what was great news that Frank & Fanny were with you & that you were all coming to London on Saturday next. I need not tell you how glad I should be to have you all for my guests at any time & for as long as would suit your convenience but I have only one spare room which

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by no method is it possible to divide, and it would be unkind for my selfish pleasure to ~~divide~~ separate you from your children or they from you. Still if such a course is open I shall have much pleasure in having either you or Frank or Fanny as long as I can. I suppose I should not say Fanny now, but I have lately forgot her married name, and Mrs Remond tells me that she is the same genial & affectionate Fanny that used to tease & scold in Boston, so I hope she will forgive me. For myself I am afraid you will find me much older in body - but I hope not in heart, than when we parted on board the Asia in Septr 1858. I reckon my working days over, though I would hope not all my uses in life. My wife & son you do not yet know, but I hope we shall all see you here shortly.

My son is not strong, but is now

passing through his Collegiate Examinations (London University College) at the End of the Session & commences his first B.A. Examinations at the University on July 15th. next. He will be at the sea side as long as we can arrange for between the close of the College Examinations from 17th of the ~~opening~~ commencement of the University Examinations on July 15th. His mother of course will accompany him, and this suggests an idea which it would give me great pleasure to carry out – Could you not occupy our whole house while this holiday lasts. You could have our bed room, & Frank could have Willie's and Fanny could have the spare room. Just think over this plan, The only objection to it that I know is the great undesirableness in your case of putting yourself in personal relations that would suggest to the outside world your connexion with any of our political or religious parties in England, which would damage your position here very much – But this could hardly exist in any case because in London I am just nobody, and utterly unknown While as you now occupy a very prominent position in the world's history, a fact that your bitterest enemy would not deny. I think it exceedingly desirable that you should enter the social arena of English Society, just as *William Lloyd Garrison*, *the Abolitionist* of America, indebted to nobody & nothing but your own recognized position for your entrance into English social life. Believe me, there will be many (I cannot help saying it) who will try to make social capital out of their acquaintanceship & personal friendship for you. Be on your guard against this and quietly put it down. Now that is the English nation are in the throes of a new birth, and I

see great good in your mixing
without any of our conventional
restraints amongst all the leading
men of the age now in London.
I think you might do much to
improve public opinion in England
on all the great questions of the
day by coming face to face with
those who form it, which in this
country more than in any other perhaps
is the work of recognized leaders
in the various social political,
~~religious~~, & scientific & literary
walks of life. But then party &
class feeling is so strong, that your
recognized association with it would
in great measure shut you out
from all chance of freely meeting
with B. whom for national purposes
it is equally desirable, perhaps
more desirable that you should
see & influence. My dear Friend,

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forgive me writing in this strain. I want you to come in close personal contact with our really great men and the leaders of public opinion, with our Ministers of State, with our leaders of opposition, and most prominent men of science. With our religious bodies you can do nothing and all time spent amongst them would be wasted. But amongst the leaders of the political world you might do a world of good. Of course I cannot help you ~~in~~ this, and there are not many who can, out of the highest circles themselves. But I have faith in the instincts of my countrymen, that they can & will recognize true greatness when it comes amongst them, & so I will hope & believe that your coming to England at this juncture will not be without great good

and abiding consequences & results
in which we shall all rejoice.

I should have been so glad to have
seen Mrs Garrison, but I suppose
there is now little hope of this till
we meet in the spirit world. When
you write give her my very kindest
remembrances, & my regret that she
is not with you.

My wife & son join me in
kind regards & best wishes, &
their hope to see you shortly:—
Believe me Ever Yours
faithfully & affectionately
W Robson.

My very kind regards to
Frank & Fanny

Miss Barnard had forgotten your
address so I send this under cover
to Mrs Putnam.

Wm Robison,
London, June 10, 1867.